

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/674,890

Examiner

Cheryl Lewis

Applicant(s)

KALUCHA ET AL.

Art Unit

2167

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the applicants' communication received on August 9, 2007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5, 7, 8, 10-21, 23, 24, 26, and 27, renumbered as claims 1-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.


THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 8/9/2007
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


Cheryl Lewis
Patent Examiner, A.U. 2167
October 26, 2007

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1, 3, 4, and 7-21 are allowed. These claims have been renumbered as claims 1-22.
2. Claims 4, 22, and 25 were cancelled in the amendment received on November 20, 2006. Claim 6 was cancelled in the amendment received on August 9, 2007.

Drawings

3. The drawings filed on October 1, 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an interview with Irah Donner on October 23, 2007.

5. Claims 1, 16, 20, and 23 have been amended and claims 2 and 19 have been cancelled as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) In a computer-implemented system, a method for at least one of controlling access, overseeing, and managing at least one of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data,

documentation, and other information, a plurality of items comprising the electronic information, and of a plurality of projects comprising at least a portion of the plurality of items, said method comprising at least one of the sequential, non-sequential, and sequence independent steps of:

(A) classifying the plurality of items in a plurality of classes, wherein the classes are selected from: activities, people, places, objects, and time;

(B) associating at least one user with at least one reference, wherein the at least one user is indicated as having at least one access level of a plurality of access levels, wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: a unique identifier, a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words;

(C) determining retrieval criteria including the at least one reference for at least one class of interest selected from the plurality of classes;

(D) associating the at least one reference with at least one of at least one item and at least one project, and at least one of: removing the at least one user from the at least one reference, adding the at least one user to the at least one reference, and assigning at least one user in at least one group associated with the at least one project;

(E) retrieving the at least one of the at least one item and at least one project associated with the at least one reference;

(F) associating a plurality of users, including the at least one user, with at least one group, and assigning the at least one group access level to the at least one of the at least one item and the at least one project;

(G) responsive to the at least one user, providing information representative of the at least one of the at least one item and the plurality of items in the at least one project associated with the at least one of the least one reference and the at least one group; and

(H) providing the at least one item to the at least one user with the at least one access level corresponding to the at least one reference associated therewith.

9. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) In a computer-based system, a method for at least one of controlling access, overseeing, and managing at least one of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, a plurality of items comprising the electronic information, and of a plurality of projects comprising at least a portion of the plurality of items, said method comprising at least one of the sequential, non-sequential, and sequence independent steps of:

(A) associating at least one user with at least one reference, wherein the at least one user is indicated as having at least one of read access, read-write access and no access; wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words, wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: a unique identifier, a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words;

(B) associating the at least one reference with at least one of at least one item and at least one project;

(C) associating a plurality of users, including the at least one user, with at least one group, and assigning the at least one group to at least one of the at least one item and the at least one project;

(D) responsive to the at least one user, providing information representative of at least one of the at least one item and the plurality of items in the at least one project associated with the at least one of the at least one reference and the at least one group;

(E) wherein the at least one item is provided to the at least one user with an access level corresponding to a most restrictive access of the plurality of references associated therewith;

(F) wherein the at least one project further includes at least one owner, and wherein at least one user is assigned as the at least one owner, wherein the at least one owner is provided access to the plurality of items in the at least one project regardless of the access level associated therewith; and

(G) denying access to at least one other user wherein at least one of the at least one reference and the at least one project are not associated with the at least one other user; and

(H) at least one of selecting the at least one project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium comprising instructions being read by at least one computer, for at least one of controlling access, overseeing, and managing at least one of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, a plurality of items comprising the electronic information, and of a plurality of projects comprising at least a portion of the plurality of items, said instructions for implementing at least one of the sequential, non-sequential, and sequence independent steps of:

(A) associating at least one user with at least one reference, wherein the at least one user is indicated as having at least one access level of a plurality of access levels, wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: unique identifier, a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words;

(B) associating the at least one reference with at least one of at least one item and at least one project;

(C) associating a plurality of users, including the at least one user, with at least one group, and assigning the at least one group access level to the at least one of the at least one item and the at least one project;

(D) responsive to the at least one user, providing information representative of the at least one of the at least one item and the plurality of items in the at least one

Art Unit: 2167

project associated with the at least one of the least one reference and the at least one group; and

(E) providing the at least one item to the at least one user with the at least one access level corresponding to the at least one reference associated therewith; and

(F) at least one of selecting the at least one project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented system for at least one of controlling access, overseeing, and managing at least one of electronic information including at least one of structured and unstructured electronic data, documentation, and other information, a plurality of items comprising the electronic information, and of a plurality of projects comprising at least a portion of the plurality of items, said system comprising:

(A) means for associating at least one user with at least one reference wherein the at least one user is indicated as having at least one access level of a plurality of access levels, wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: a unique identifier, a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words;

(B) means for associating the at least one reference with at least one of at least one item and at least one project;

Art Unit: 2167

(C) means for associating a plurality of users, including the at least one user, with at least one group, and assigning the at least one group access level to the at least one of the at least one item and the at least one project;

(D) means, responsive to the at least one user, for providing information representative of the at least one of the at least one item and the plurality of items in the at least one project associated with the at least one of the least one reference and the at least one group; and

(E) means for providing the at least one item to the at least one user with the at least one access level corresponding to the at least one reference associated therewith; and

(F) means for at least one of selecting the at least one project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

6. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

The prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including "(B) associating at least one user with at least one reference, wherein the at least one user is indicated as having at least one access level of a plurality of access

Art Unit: 2167

levels, wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: a unique identifier, a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words; (C) determining retrieval criteria including the at least one reference for at least one class of interest selected from the plurality of classes; (D) associating the at least one reference with at least one of at least one item and at least one project, and at least one of: removing the at least one user from the at least one reference, adding the at least one user to the at least one reference, and assigning at least one user in at least one group associated with the at least one project; (E) retrieving the at least one of the at least one item and at least one project associated with the at least one reference; (F) associating a plurality of users, including the at least one user, with at least one group, and assigning the at least one group access level to the at least one of the at least one item and the at least one project; (G) responsive to the at least one user, providing information representative of the at least one of the at least one item and the plurality of items in the at least one project associated with the at least one of the least one reference and the at least one group" and as recited in independent claim 1 and similarly recited in independent claims 20, 23, and 26.

As per claim 16, the prior art of record does not render obvious to one ordinarily skilled in the art at the time of applicant's invention nor anticipate the combination of claimed elements including "(A) associating at least one user with at least one reference, wherein the at least one user is indicated as having at least one of read access, read-write access and no access; wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words,

Art Unit: 2167

wherein the at least one reference includes at least one of: a unique identifier, a keyword, a root term, a portion of a keyword, and a plurality of words; (E) wherein the at least one item is provided to the at least one user with an access level corresponding to a most restrictive access of the plurality of references associated therewith; (F) wherein the at least one project further includes at least one owner, and wherein at least one user is assigned as the at least one owner, wherein the at least one owner is provided access to the plurality of items in the at least one project regardless of the access level associated therewith; (G) denying access to at least one other user wherein at least one of the at least one reference and the at least one project are not associated with the at least one other user; and (H) at least one of selecting the at least one project and listing the plurality of items in the project, and responsive to a selection of at least one of the plurality of items, displaying information characterizing the item, via a native application cooperating therewith" and similarly recited in independent claim 27.

The remaining claims, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10-15, 17, 18, 21, and 24, are dependent claims, thus these claims are patently distinct over the art of record for at least the above reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

NAME OF CONTACT

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl Lewis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4113. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

(571) 273-4113 (Use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions.).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/ Technology Center (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

Art Unit: 2167

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Cheryl Lewis/

Patent Examiner, A.U. 2167

October 24, 2007